



The Child Development Center opens its doors to local kindergarten students. See page 14 for more

February 23, 2001

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

www.okinawa.usmc.mil

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New camouflage utilities make their way to Okinawa

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NEWS

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UDP unit trains with Amphibious Assault Vehicle

Marines of Company C, 3d Amphibious Assault Battalion, hit the beach at Oura Wan Bay to familiarize themselves with the vehicles and equipment they will use for the next six months.

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SPORTS

Local teams battle it out in Rugby tournament

In a classic battle, the Hellcats and Thunder combine, but come up short against a physical Exiles team. But in the end, the game speaks more for teamwork and sportsmanship than who may have won or lost.

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LEISURE

Saxophonist follows in his father's foot notes

Musician Ron Brown performs for local service members and talks about life growing up in Austin, Texas, and his love for the music that has given him so much success.

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FORECAST

	Today
high 72	low 61
	Saturday
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LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT

Special delivery

PFC Scott Smith and Sgt Doug Gallant, both Air Delivery Specialists, Air Delivery Platoon, Landing Support Co., 3d TSB, 3d FSSG, gather up the parachute to a heavy supply drop after it was dropped from a KC-130 Hercules. The unit was in Guam practicing air delivery missions. See story and photos, pages 10-11.

NMCRS prepares for annual drive

LCPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The president of the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society, retired Navy ADM Jerry Johnson, visited Okinawa Feb. 12 to visit with local NMCRS volunteers and accept a \$1,000 donation to help the family members of Sailors who were killed in the *USS Cole* bombing.

The donation was made by members of the Religious Petty Officers Anniversary Committee. The money was raised at the 22nd Religious Program Specialist Ball.

The visit comes just weeks before the NMCRS will begin its annual fund drive, which starts March 2.

According to Maj Michael Hobbs, Military Fund Drive Coordinator, more than \$250,000 was raised through Okinawa contributions last year.

"Each year we have a fund raiser involving active duty service members and we expect to raise up to \$10 million Navy and Marine Corps wide," ADM Johnson said. "That's an average of about \$16 per year, per active duty Sailor and Marine."

The NMCRS uses the contributions collected during the annual fund drives to offer a variety of services such as loans, grants and budgeting classes to military members

and their families.

The financial services they offer include interest-free loans to help service members pay for travel experiences during an emergency, funds for personal needs when pay is delayed, emergency vehicle repairs, funeral expenses, dental treatment costs and the Spouse Tuition Assistance Program.

According to the organization's website (www.nmcrs.org), its mission



ADM Johnson (ret)

is to provide in partnership with the Navy and Marine Corps, financial, educational and other assistance to members of the Naval services of the United States, eligible family members and survivors when in need; and to receive and manage funds to administer these programs.

The society is a nonprofit charitable organization that is sponsored by the Department of the Navy and operates nearly 250 offices ashore and afloat at Navy and Marine Corps bases throughout the world.

It is managed by a board of directors whose members are active duty or retired members of the Naval services or spouses of active duty or retired Naval service members.

Each year NMCRS provides more than \$40 million in loans and grants.

The grants make up about \$5 million and the rest goes toward interest-free loans.

The NMCRS also provides budget counseling, assistance with reading a leave and earnings statement, visiting nurses and classes on budgeting for expectant mothers.

The society was started in the District of Columbia in 1904 when there was recognition that service members had no health benefits, insurance programs or survivor's benefits for widows and orphans. Today, its headquarters are located in Arlington, Va.

Though the program is sponsored by the Department of the Navy, it receives no funding from the government and began with volunteers taking up contributions to help others who were in need.

The organization is supported today through its annual fund drive conducted by the Navy and Marine Corps and a direct mail campaign of the Navy and Marine Corps retired community.

It's continued over the years providing services in our community to help those that have financial needs, according to ADM Johnson. The NMCRS's mission is carried out with the help of more than 3,000 volunteers worldwide.

"We need volunteers in the offices," ADM Johnson said. "We have several training programs and we make sure volunteers are well qualified to provide the services that we offer here."

DoD absentee voting evaluation, see page 8

New camouflage utilities make way to Okinawa



USMC PHOTO
Gen James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps, inspects an example of the new camouflage utility uniform that Marines are now testing in the field.

PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP HANSEN — The Marines of Company L, 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, began a 90-day test period of the new camouflage utilities here Jan. 30.

The company is one of only three units throughout the Marine Corps testing the new utilities.

"It's an honor to have my Marines be some of the first to wear the 'cammies,'" said 1stSgt Michael S. Field, Company First Sergeant, Co L, 3/8. "We are going to do our best to wear the cammies as much as possible, both in garrison and in the field, over the next 90 days."

The new utilities are currently being tested to see if Marines have any problems or concerns with them before the Marine Corps begins its transition to the new uniform.

"The Commandant said he wanted to be different," 1stSgt Field said. "There is no doubt in my mind that these will do the trick."

The Marines have been wearing the utilities for almost a month. Many see them as being very beneficial and can appreciate the new design.

"Most of the Marines wearing the 'cammies' agree that they grow on you very quickly," said Cpl Raston Boodram, Squad Leader, Co L, 3/8. "There are, of course, still some bugs to be worked out, but I think they're a good choice."

The new utilities have various differences from the traditional uniform.

Everything on the new utilities, from slanted pockets to pre-embroidered emblems and sleeves that zip off, provide for an easier more comfortable and reasonable uniform, according to Cpl Boodram.

The utilities also feature pockets on the inside to insert pads that will protect the knees and elbows of Marines low crawling over rough surfaces.

The new 'cammies' also feature cargo pockets with drawstrings and straps to secure gear that may be placed inside.

The new boots worn with the uniform no longer need to be polished. The utilities no longer need to be ironed or creased.

"The uniform is just simpler in every way," Cpl Boodram said. "They even removed the two lower pockets on the blouse that honestly served no purpose in the past."

One of the most unique aspects of the uniform is its inclusion of the Eagle, Globe and Anchor.

The renowned Marine Corps logo is duplicated every 27 inches throughout the pattern of the fabric.

The uniform is definitely one we should keep once enough Marines are afforded the opportunity to test them, according to 1stSgt Field.

"If the Commandant was to ask me today what I thought about the new uniforms, I would definitely say that we should switch to them, just work out the bugs," 1stSgt Field said.

Reenlistment bonuses nearly exhausted

Retention of first termers in FY 2001 exceeds expectations

GYSGT MATT HEVEZI
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The money is almost gone and retention officials are glad.

Manpower officials announced in a Feb. 13 administrative message released Corpwide (MARADMIN 074/01) that funding to support the Marine Corps Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program will end March 14.

They said the funding for reenlistment bonuses will cease because efforts by career planners and other Marines who are focused on retaining Marines have exceeded expectations.

During the first four months of fiscal year 2001, Marines were paid more zone A bonuses than in any other fiscal year, the message said. Zone A refers to Marines with less than six years of service.

Some bonuses paid to reenlisting Marines were valued at \$30,000.

Of the 6,069 first-term reenlistments the Corps is seeking for fiscal year 2001, less than 1,800 slots remain.

"The Marine Corps retention team has done an exceptional job," the message said. "Our success has exhausted our (bonus) budget. Effective March 14, all (bonuses) will be reduced to zero."

"If any Marine is eligible for a bonus, either a first-term or careerist, and they haven't reenlisted, they will lose it if they don't reenlist by March 13," said GySgt Charles J. Lawrence, Career Planner, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base. "If the money is out there and you have the bonus,



COURTESY PHOTO
The Marine Corps retention team has been so successful in FY2001, all bonuses will be reduced to zero next month.

go ahead and reenlist while the money is there," he said.

Waiting too long to complete the many forms and requirements needed to complete the reenlistment process could put bonuses for eligible Marines at risk.

"You have to make sure you are qualified," GySgt Lawrence said. "You have to push the paper work through the chain of command."

Marines who seek to reenlist must first have the proper recommendations, be qualified through medical and dental officials, and have a current physical fitness test recorded in the service record, GySgt Lawrence said.

"They shouldn't wait to the last minute to come in to reenlist. It can be hard to get all the paperwork done in a short time, especially if they don't have a car to get around to get all the needed signatures," GySgt Lawrence said. "There is a lot that can happen if you wait too long to start."

Marines no longer have to wait to the last minute to receive their entire bonus GySgt Lawrence said.

Bonus-eligible Marines now have an option to reenlist for four years and not have money deducted for any time left over from their previous enlistment contract, he said.

Marines can choose to start their new contract when their old one is complete.

New NMCRS office opens aboard Kinser

SSGT JASON M. WEBB
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP KINSER — The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society will officially open its new satellite office here during a ceremony March 1 at Bldg. 1313 at 11:00 a.m.

The previous office was closed more than a year ago.

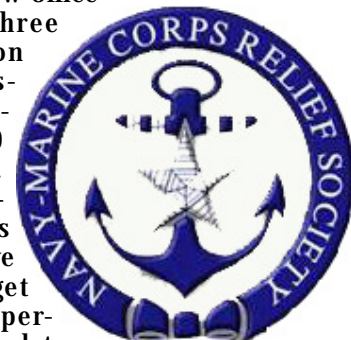
According to Sharon Gima, Director, NMCRS Okinawa, the new office

will be open three days a week, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and offer services such as emergency leave requests, budget counseling, paperwork for spousal tuition assistance and interest-free loans to needy service members.

"We are here to meet the needs of the service members to make life better for them," said Bobbie J. Williams, Honorary President, NMCRS here. "We provide the same programs that they do back in the States including the spousal tuition assistance program and other educational programs that are not offered there."

The NMCRS is fully staffed by a volunteer force of trained caseworkers who are familiar with the special conditions of service life with an understanding of the potential hardships facing service members and their families.

To find out more about services offered to service members or to volunteer call 637-2112 for the office here, 645-7808 for the Camp Foster office or 623-5043 for the Camp Hansen office.



Unicorn travels around world helping students learn about geography

Toy sent to Navy Federal Credit Unions in the Far East arrives on Okinawa

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, FUTENMA — Flying to places like Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan and Guam from the States may seem like a lot of traveling, but for a unicorn named Mystic it's all about learning.

Geoff Gibson, a 6-year-old first grader at Town and Country School, Vienna, Va., is participating in a 10-week geography project with his fellow classmates. Gibson is sending Mystic around to various Navy Federal Credit Unions in the Far East to learn more about the area and where the credit unions are located.

"I would like to learn what people eat, what they wear, where they live, what they learn in school and some words of the country," Gibson said.

By the end of the project, Mystic will travel to credit unions halfway around the world.

Each NFCU is allowed to keep Mystic

in their facility for no longer than one week. When Mystic arrives at each new branch, they will send a postcard back to Gibson's first grade class.

The postcards will allow the children to locate each place on the map while keeping track of Mystic's travel, according to Trish Munoz, Member Service Representative, NFCU, here.

After Mystic arrives at each NFCU, the staff will participate in activities with Mystic while recording each event by writing in a journal and taking pictures with the camera provided.

"I would like to see Sailors, Marines, jet airplanes, Navy ships, Yokosuka Naval Hospital (where my mother was born), pictures of towns and the countryside, cultural events and places, schools and oriental boats," Gibson said.

During a weeklong stay here from Feb. 7 to 14, it didn't get to see jet airplanes, but it did get a front seat in a CH-46E Sea Knight Helicopter.

"We took Mystic down to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-262 and had its picture taken inside a helicopter," said Munoz. Later, it did get the chance to finally fly with the squadron.

Mystic did several other activities while visiting Futenma's branch.



LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT

Mystic, a unicorn Beanie Baby, sits on the counter at Navy Federal Credit Union Futenma branch during his visit as part of his world tour for a first-grade geography project.

"Mystic went with us to pick up money for Community Bank, it rode in a Military Police car, it will take a picture with a Japanese girl in a kimono dress, try sushi and Japanese candy and it will also learn to use chopsticks," Munoz said.

As Mystic travels from place to place, it will gather souvenirs and information from each place. In a letter from Gibson's first grade teacher, items like local newspapers, examples of currency, brochures from different attractions and pictures of mystic doing activities during his visit were also suggested.

When Mystic was here, it had a travel booklet, a two dollar coin and brochures from Hong Kong, an Okinawa Marine Newspaper and a HMM-262 squadron coin.

As Mystic continues his travel in the Far East, NFCU will keep Gibson and his fellow classmates informed on where and what he is doing. A wealth of information will arrive long before Mystic ever appears back home in Virginia.

"I have only one (postcard) so far from Hong Kong, but my mommy told me that it takes a long time for postcards to come from overseas," Gibson said.

Kubasaki High School to host college fair

Students preparing to further their education need support

SGT ROBERT J. ANGUS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Kubasaki High School will be hosting a college fair April 4 from 7-8:30 p.m. in its cafeteria to provide prospective students face-to-face time with former students from the different colleges.

"We hope to provide our community with a large representation of colleges and universities available for new and transferring college students," said Cherilee Shaughnessy, Guidance Counselor, KHS. "The college fair last year was extremely successful due to the involvement of the entire community."

College representatives do not generally come to Okinawa. Therefore, KHS needs alumni to represent their schools during the fair, according to Shaughnessy.

"Being on Okinawa, our students are generally unable to visit college campuses due to expense and time constraints," Shaughnessy said. "Having a college fair will hopefully provide them with information they may not find on the computer."

The college fair is open to the community as well as KHS students, according to Shaughnessy.

"The college fair is also for transferring students from the University of Maryland or the

other colleges here on Okinawa," Shaughnessy said.

As community participation is the key to the success of the college fair, volunteers are needed to represent their schools, according to Shaughnessy.

"We need alumni to write or call their college or university and ask for materials and information to hand out to prospective students," Shaughnessy said. "Most colleges will send catalogs, brochures, pens and pennants free of charge. If volunteers need help writing the letters or some place to store these items before the fair, we can assist them."

Volunteering for the college fair can be very rewarding, according to Lory Maddox, President, Parent Teach Student Association, KHS and College Fair volunteer.

"I like motivating the students to get excited about going to college," said Maddox, who is a San Francisco State University graduate. "I was the first generation in my family to go to college and was motivated by my high school teachers. Now, I'm trying to encourage others as I was."

With high community involvement, KHS hopes the college fair will provide college awareness and increase admissions, according to Shaughnessy.

"We hope that the college fair will help prepare students to enter the college selection and admission process early," Shaughnessy said. "Military recruiters will also help to provide additional materials and choices to the students."

"I was the first generation in my family to go to college and was motivated by my high school teachers."

- Lory Maddox

Healthwatch: Diarrhea

U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL YOKOSUKA

U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL, Yokosuka — Diarrhea is a common childhood illness that usually results from coming in contact with other people who are infected with viruses. These viruses enter the bowel and make the bowel secrete more water than usual. The result is loose, watery stool that passes more often.

Diarrhea can also be caused by bacterial infections. Generally, these occur when people travel and come into contact with bacterially infected drinking water, swimming lakes or pets.

As a parent, there are several things you can do to help your child get over diarrhea:

(1) Give the child plenty of fluids such as Popsicles, Gatorade, broth, water, and Pedialyte. These fluids flush out the virus and prevent dehydration.

(2) Place the child on a low-fat diet until stools slow down or return to normal. The "BRAT" diet (bananas, rice, applesauce and toast) helps slow loose stools. Greasy or fried foods usually make diarrhea worse.

(3) Avoid milk products for 24-48 hours. For babies on formula, switching to a soy-based milk will be necessary to continue feeding without making the diarrhea worse.

(4) If you are giving the child juice as a part of the fluids, first dilute it half-and-half with water or Pedialyte.

(5) Finally, a coating antacid such as PeptoBismol may be used. A dose of one teaspoon (5 ml) may be used for each 10 pounds that the child weighs, up to 30 ml. If your child weighs more than 60 pounds, do not give more than 30 ml, or two tablespoons.

Finally, there are several cases in which you should see a physician for diarrhea: Diarrhea lasts longer than three-five days, blood or mucous is in the stool, child develops a fever greater than 103 degrees, child also has vomiting and cannot hold down fluids or has complaints of burning when urinating.

Parents should contact their pediatrician if they have concerns about the way their child is responding to diarrhea or other illness.

Charting the path of success

One Marine's American dream could make you a millionaire

SGT JASON S. SCHAAP
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Unlike the international pop icon his name is usually associated with, CWO3 Michael Jackson doesn't own a silver-studded glove.

But if you talk to one of CWO3 Jackson's associates, everything he touches turns to gold.

Ask CWO3 Jackson, and he'll tell you everything he touches will appreciate quicker than the world's most common currency ever will.

CWO3 Jackson is a successful investor. He plans to be worth a million dollars at age 55. Considering the average age of retirement in the United States is 65, his goal looks like the fruition of an American dream: get rich and retire early. But for CWO3 Jackson, it's really his plan B.

His original target age for making his first million was 40. But like many service members, finding himself in the military was not part of his younger dreams.

Eighteen years ago, he was a corporal starting a family and struggling to make ends meet.

"(There was) a time when I was just able to afford the essentials for the family," CWO3 Jackson said. "I remember looking in the penny jar for money to buy (baby) formula."

While he said he learned a great deal from the experience of struggling financially, CWO3 Jackson wishes he discovered the power of investment much sooner.

"If I knew what I know today when I was a (private first class) I would have had the potential to make a lot more money than I have now," CWO3 Jackson said.

What Jackson wishes happened 18 years ago didn't actually happen until two years ago, when his battalion Executive Officer, LtCol Guy Medor, gave him what CWO3 Jackson called a "push" in the right direction.

When CWO3 Jackson told Medor a large amount of his money was wrapped up in low-interest bearing savings bonds, Medor told him he could earn much more in the stock market.

"I had always hated taking risks with money; I was always stingy with it," CWO3 Jackson said. "My mother used to always make fun of me. For every dollar I'd get as a child, I'd spend 20 cents and save 80."

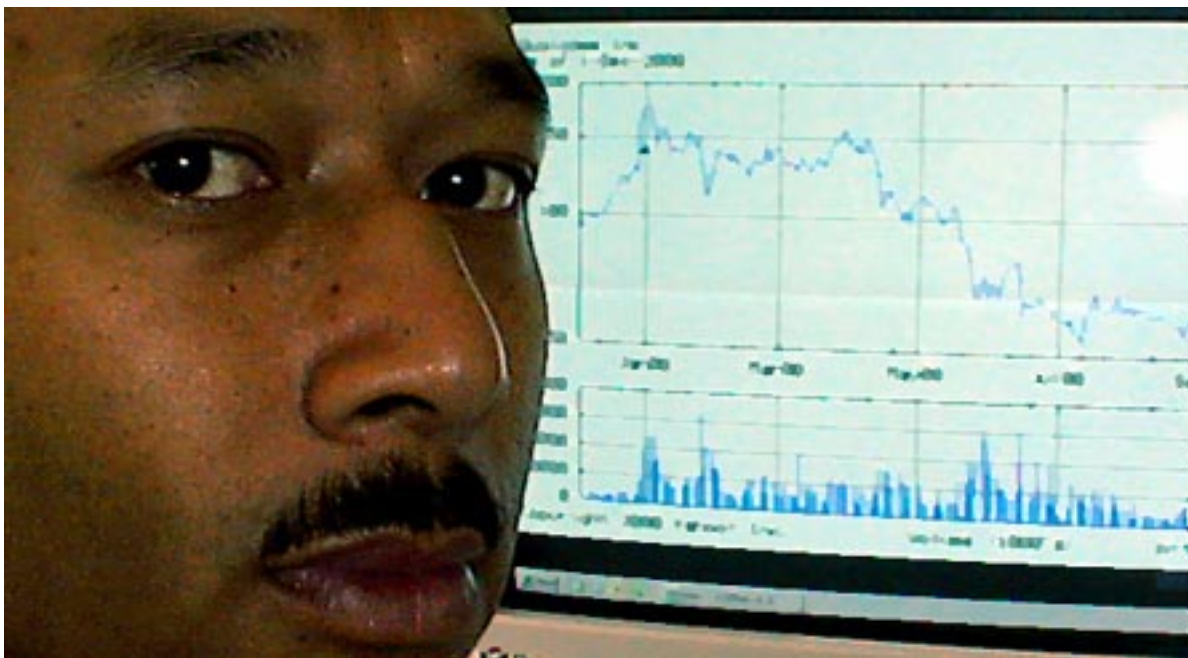
Fortunately for CWO3 Jackson, Medor wasn't the only person to give him that needed "push." His wife, Theresa, was much more ready to explore the world of Wall Street.

"I'm more of a risk taker," Theresa said. "I'm always saying, 'There has to be more, there has to be a bigger return Michael.'"

"So when he met LtCol Medor (and discussed options in the market) I was like, 'Yes, let's do that!'"

Two years, a few very successful stock picks and countless hours or research later, CWO3 Jackson and his wife have never looked back. Now, he looks forward and beyond.

His day starts with five to 10 minutes of information television, where he gets a quick look at what the mar-



SGT JASON S. SCHAAP

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Jackson, Officer in Charge, Marine Corps Personal Administration Center, started watching the ups and downs of the stock market three years ago. Now he says he will be a millionaire at 55.

ket did overnight. It's sort of his stretching exercise. He loosens his market-playing muscles so there won't be any real big surprises when he ventures into his bread and butter, his on-line portfolio.

With the click of a computer button, CWO3 Jackson's financial well-being is instantly brewed like morning coffee. But he's far from his daily fix.

After his portfolio is updated, CWO3 Jackson scans a popular Internet site for more market news. It's then off to work, where he is not only the Officer in Charge of the Marine Corps Personal Administration Center, but also a source of investing information to his co-workers.

"I can't tell you how many people who call me want to do lunch," CWO3 Jackson said. "One guy (who often telephones) calls me Midas (an ancient king who was known for turning everything he touched into gold)."

Some nights, rather than working up his investing sweat, CWO3 Jackson can be seen working up his investment funds as a criminal justice instructor for the University of Maryland. CWO3 Jackson said he uses the money he earns as a teacher to bulk up his portfolio.

Whether he's teaching or training, CWO3 Jackson said he usually concludes his investment agenda with a daily mountain of e-mail that awaits him at home.

His wife, who also invests money and her time into her own imported furniture business, said pulling CWO3 Jackson away from the computer can sometimes be a task. Nonetheless, she knows, in the end, "it's a good thing."

"We look at investment as long term," Theresa said. "You have to do your homework."

LtCol Medor said never ending tenacity and long-term dedication is what separates CWO3 Jackson from other investors.

"He sets his goals and does the tedious and obligatory research by using available resources ... before he invests," LtCol Medor said. "CWO3 Jackson also has the patience, the open-mindedness, the common sense, the self-reliance and the ability to ignore the general panic when the market fluctuates."

LtCol Medor isn't the only Marine at his battalion who recognizes CWO3 Jackson's success.

"A lot of my Marines have signed up for mutual funds," CWO3 Jackson said. "Some have even signed up for the stock market."

To CWO3 Jackson, watching young Marines plan for a successful financial future are some of the greatest moments of his Marine Corps career.

"I see job satisfaction as me touching a life," CWO3 Jackson said. "I have Marines who got out (of the Corps) and still keep in touch with me - that is more important than any medal on my chest."

"Maybe one day one of my lance corporals will be a multimillionaire."

CWO3 Jackson, who has spoken at investment classes given by his battalion, said he thinks too many Marines (and other service members) lack the education they need to develop a successful financial plan.

"Marines, especially young Marines, need to understand they have options," CWO3 Jackson said. "I'm trying to plant that seed."

CWO3 Jackson plans to retire from the Corps and pursue a career in the human resources field in Hawaii, a place he and his wife "fell in love with" while previously assigned there.

Whether he becomes a millionaire or not, for CWO3 Jackson, it's actually the challenge of getting there that drives him the most.

"If I am only a millionaire for a couple days and the market drops, so what," CWO3 Jackson said.

SAFETY ZONE

Safety theme of second quarter

MARINE ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE 068/01

Operational safety is the coordinated safety theme for the second quarter of fiscal year 2001. You should concentrate your safety program emphasis on safety while training for and conducting Marine Corps operations.

Commanders should conduct at least one operational oriented safety event prior to April. This may be done in conjunction with a previously scheduled command event, separately, tied to ongoing installation efforts or as a new initiative. Regardless, the most important part of it is content.

Concentrate on the types of activities that are killing and injuring our Marines in the training and operational arena. Last year, 12 Marines died in duty ground mishaps and 29 others died in aviation mishaps. The most common type of mishaps were operational/training accidents, followed by tactical vehicle accidents. Additionally, nearly 600 injuries occurred while participating in duty activities.

Every leader must stress the importance and value of applying the five operational risk management steps into all activities. These are: identify hazards, assess hazards, make risk decisions, implement controls and supervise. ORM is not a tool to prevent missions or training from occurring, but a tool to allow us to execute missions successfully while minimizing unacceptable risks. We do not send Marines into combat without bullets; neither should we send them out to train without the ability to assess and control risks they may encounter.

NJP REPORT

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for Feb. 11-17.

• Underage drinking

A Private First Class with Battalion Landing Team 1/5, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$300 pay per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Corporal with BLT 1/5, 31st MEU, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$350 per month for one month and restriction for 14 days.

Two Privates First Class with 3d Transportation Support Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, were found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

Two Lance Corporals with 3d TSB, 3d FSSG, were found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$607 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

A Lance Corporal with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron-212, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

• Drunk and disorderly

A Petty Officer 1st Class with United States Naval Hospital, Okinawa, was found guilty at a captain's mast of drunk and disorderly conduct. Punishment: reduction to E-4, forfeiture of \$826 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

• Providing alcohol to a Marine under the legal drinking age

A Lance Corporal with VMFA-212, 1st MAW, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of the above offense. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

• Allowing a Marine to consume alcohol while under the legal age to do so

A Lance Corporal with VMFA-212, 1st MAW, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of the above offense. Punishment: reduction to E-2 and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

Absentee ballot evaluation

A team of DoD representatives will be on island Feb. 20 to March 1 evaluating the absentee ballot process during the past presidential election.

The evaluation will consist of team meetings with Air Force and Marine Corps focus groups to solicit feedback concerning the absentee voting process.

The team will hold an open-table discussion at the Joint Reception Center on Camp Foster (Bldg. 447A) March 1 at 1:00 p.m. For more information, call Capt R. Hairston at 645-2229.



GYSGT MARLON J. MARTIN

Universal language

The language differences between the Marines and the officer cadets of the Japanese Officer Exchange Program provides a light moment for Cpl Erik W. Melton, Wpns Co, 2/3, 3rdMarDiv, as he explains the capabilities of his M220E4 TOW Weapon System Feb. 8 at Camp Schwab. The cadets visited the 2/3 Marines to learn more about their equipment and the training the Marines will do while in Okinawa.

LENT SERVICES SCHEDULE

Camp Foster Chapel

Catholic

Feb 28	Mass and Distribution of Ashes.....11:45-12:45 a.m. & 7-8 p.m.
Mar 7	Stations of the Cross Benediction.....7-8 p.m.
Mar 14	Stations of the Cross Benediction.....7-8 p.m.
Mar 21	Presentation of Creed to the Catechumens and Lenten Penance Service.....7-8 p.m.
Mar 28	Stations of the Cross Benediction.....7-8 p.m.
Apr 4	Presentation of the Lord's Prayer to the Catechumens.....6:30-7 p.m.
	Stations of the Cross Benediction.....7-8 p.m.
Apr 8	Solemn Procession and Mass with Passion.....9:30-10:30 a.m.
Apr 12	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Washing of the feet, Procession to the Altar of Repose Adoration.....7:30-11:55 p.m.
Apr 13	Solemn Liturgy.....5-6:30 p.m.
Apr 14	Final Rites of Preparation for Catechumens.....10-11 a.m.
	Easter Vigil, Blessing of Easter Food and Celebration in Annex with Orthodox Congregation.....8-10:30 p.m.

Protestant

Feb 28	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Mar 7	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Mar 14	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Mar 21	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Mar 28	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Apr 4	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Apr 11	Lenten Prayers.....6:30-7 p.m.
Apr 12	Washing of Feet.....5:30-7:30 p.m.
Apr 13	Good Friday Services, Seven Last Words.....7-9 p.m.

Jewish

Apr 7	Passover Seder.....6-10 p.m.
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Muslim

Mar 6/7	Pilgrimage Prayer "EID-UL-ADHA SALAH".....7-9 a.m.
Mar 10	"EID-UL-ADHA Feast".....8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Orthodox

Feb 26	Great Fast (Lent begins)
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Feb 28	Presanctified Liturgy.....6 p.m.
Mar 4	1st Sunday of Lent Divine Liturgy.....9:30 a.m.
Mar 7	Presanctified Liturgy.....6 p.m.
Mar 11	2nd Sunday Lent Divine Liturgy...9:30 a.m.
Mar 14	Presanctified Liturgy.....6 p.m.
Mar 18	Veneration of the Holy Cross Divine Liturgy.....9:30 a.m.
Apr 1	5th Sunday of Lent Divine Liturgy.....9:30 a.m.
Apr 4	Confessions.....4:30-6 p.m.
Apr 8	Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy.....9:30 a.m.
Apr 9	Holy Monday Service.....7 p.m.
Apr 11	Holy Unction Service.....7 p.m.
Apr 12	Commemoration of the Last Supper Divine Liturgy.....12:30 p.m.
	Holy Passion of Our Lord.....7 p.m.
Apr 13	Holy Friday Hours.....10 a.m.
	Descent from Cross and Lamentations p.m.
Apr 14	Prayer and Contemplation.....8 p.m.
	Resurrection and Divine Liturgy..8:30 p.m.
Apr 15	Pascha Agape Service.....11 a.m.
	Easter Agape Pot Luck.....12:30 p.m.

Camp Kinser

Roman Catholic

Apr 8	Palm Sunday.....8 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Apr 12	Holy Thursday.....8 p.m.
Apr 13	Good Friday.....8 p.m.
Apr 14	Holy Saturday.....8 p.m.
Apr 15	Easter Sunday.....11 a.m.

Protestant

Apr 8	Palm Sunday.....9 a.m.
Apr 13	Good Friday.....6 p.m.
Apr 15	Easter Sunday.....9 a.m.

Episcopalian

Apr 8	Palm Sunday.....9:30 a.m.
Apr 12	Holy Thursday.....5:30 p.m.
Apr 13	Good Friday.....5:30 p.m.
Apr 14	Holy Saturday.....8 p.m.
Apr 15	Easter Sunday.....9:30 a.m.

Inspirational

Apr 8	Palm Sunday.....12:30 p.m.
Apr 15	Easter Sunday.....12:30 p.m.

Lent: A time to reflect on the symbols of faith

The Christian world will begin a holy season of forty days. We call it "Lent." Many Christians mark the beginning of Lent on a Wednesday.

We call this day "Ash Wednesday." As a sign to ourselves and others, ashes are placed on our foreheads.

Ashes are the remains of burnt palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday celebrations, the week before Easter Sunday.

Ashes on their own have very little value. What they represent has infinite value: conversion, faith and love of God are only a few of the meanings represented by ashes for the believer.

In the movie "Fright Night" there is a powerful example of the need for faith behind the symbols Christians use to express their faith.

This film is about vampires.

A group of young people notice an unusual group of people have just moved into their neighborhood.

They look into the old, unpainted and boarded up mansion and see vampires. They seek help to rid their block of this evil presence.

They find a vampire hunter, played by the late actor Roddy McDowell. He is not up to the challenge and lacks courage and faith to resist the vampires.

He is not too convinced he will even find vampires in his home, but goes with his bag of tricks. He brings a wooden stake and other means to defeat the vampires.

He enters the house and becomes more and



more nervous.

He grows frightened and makes his way up the main staircase of the home. He goes halfway up and is shocked to be confronted by an actual vampire.

Fangs showing, the leader of the vampires makes his way down the stairs.

Roddy McDowell is frightened and not the heroic vampire chaser he was reported to be.

He reaches into his bag and pulls out a cross and holds it up. "Back down" he yells, but the vampire smiles and begins to laugh.

"You have to have faith for that to work!"

The vampire takes his hand with the cross and crushes it.

Roddy McDowell runs out of the house.

As the film progresses, the vampire hunter regains his courage and faith to go defeat this evil figure.

He returns and this time when he holds up the cross, the vampire is defeated and the home is rid of this evil presence.

Lent is a time for us to step back and ask what do the symbols of faith that many Christians wear, carry or display in their homes represent? They represent faith in God.

Let us use the forty days of Lent to pray a little bit more, to fast or make sacrifices for others out of love for God and the gift of his son Jesus Christ.

We are not confronting vampires during this season but temptation, sin and evil.

With God's grace we can overcome them all!

How? Through faith!

— Marine Corps Base Chaplain's Office

What Would You Do?

The following examination of leadership issues is not intended to present right or wrong answers. The goal is to provide a forum to encourage leadership discussions of challenging issues. Chaplain responses are designed to provide moral and ethical guidance. Questions, comments or ideas for a future scenario may be submitted to: editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Handling a heated situation

You are a 1st lieutenant who works in the Wing and you have a problem. One of your lance corporals is close to promotion for corporal. You and your staff sergeant have counseled LCpl W.O. Aclue about a dozen times, though none were official counseling.

The counseling usually went something like, "What were you thinking?" or "Haven't I told you before?" LCpl Aclue never really does anything wrong, he just doesn't do anything really right. Though on paper Aclue is a model Marine, 300 PFT, high expert with the rifle and he is always super motivated.

The shop you are in charge of is rather large and you have about twenty lance corporals. The last Marine you would ever put in charge is LCpl Aclue.

Your staff sergeant's advice was to not recommend LCpl Aclue for promotion, but you have serious doubts about this course of action. LCpl Aclue doesn't even have a Page 11, you don't feel that non-rec'ing LCpl Aclue is fair.

"Sir, no one ever accused the Marine Corps of being fair. But if you want fair then think about the 20 lance corporals who will have to take orders from LCpl Aclue."

"What do you want me to do staff sergeant? Call LCpl Aclue in here and tell him that he is being non-rec'd because he is lost? How is that going to look?"

The staff sergeant is just staring at you now. What are you going to do about LCpl Aclue?

What the Marines said

1stLt with III MEF: "Non-rec him. It's not fair to the 20 lance corporals he's going to be over. "Lost" spreads through a unit like cancer. No paperwork doesn't mean the Marine didn't make any mistakes, it probably means the NCOs were just too lazy to write it down."

2ndLt with MCB: "If they promote him they are hurting him more than helping him and they are hurting the other Marines. The power will probably go to his head and since he's good at avoiding Page 11's and counseling, somebody else is going to burn because of his mistakes as a corporal."

SSgt with III MEF: "Don't promote him. Just because a Marine looks good on paper doesn't mean he has the integrity or ability to be a good leader. Putting somebody who can't take care of themselves in charge of other Marines is a risk not worth taking. It could get somebody killed in the field."

What the Chaplain said

Making difficult decisions is a common challenge of leadership. Many factors including fairness must be considered. However, the bottom line is that all decisions must be made on what is the right thing to do, not the fair thing to do. This is the task of integrity. We pursue the best course of action drawn from motives grounded in honor, courage and commitment.

While keeping this Marine from promotion may not seem fair, much more is at stake here. In this case the staff sergeant's and 1st lieutenant's personal observations remain valid even in the absence of formal counseling reports and page 11's.

Promotion is done for the good of the Corps first, then the individual. We take care of Marines in many ways, specifically through trustworthy NCO leadership.

Thus, as his lieutenant, I would not recommend LCpl Aclue for promotion. I would explain my concerns about his performance and encourage him to improve in those areas. No one should ever presume that promotion is automatic based on a flawless "paper" reputation. Whatever our rank may be it should serve as a testimony that we were found worthy of the level of leadership entrusted to us.

— Navy Lt. George J. Mendes, Chaplain, 31st MEU



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623-4054

Central Office
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645-7423

Southern Office
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637-2276

Commanding General BGen Willie J. Williams
Public Affairs Officer LtCol Kurt S. Owermbolt
Press Officer Capt Jeffrey S. Pool
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Oki Marines drop in on Guam

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Twenty-seven Marines from Okinawa deployed here Feb. 12-16 so they could practice dropping things.

The Marines, from Air Delivery Platoon, Landing Support Company, 3d Transportation Support Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, with support from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron-152, Marine Aircraft Group-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, spent the week practicing air delivery missions.

Throughout the week the Marines completed three heavy supply drops and one combination drop. A combination drop is a heavy drop followed by personnel and then a smaller supply drop.

After arriving here Feb. 12, the Marines started training Feb. 13 with two attempts of a heavy supply drop, but because of gusting winds the drops had to be postponed.

"We are only allowed to do drops with 18 knot wind gusts," said Sgt Chris M. Whitley, Platoon Sergeant, Air Delivery Platoon. "Only during training would we worry about the wind limitations."

The Marines from VMGR-152 took the opportunity to do some squadron training with support from the Air Delivery Platoon.

"We were very successful in completing over 23 sorties, 55 flight hours and completing or updating 74 mission codes for 12 pilots and 3 aircrews," said Capt Scott K. Hornbuckle, Airframes Officer, VMGR-152.

Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron-152 was able to complete a lot even with other services using the airfield.

"The Navy and Air Force had flights coming in and out of the airfield during out scheduled drops. It is impossible to drop while planes are operating on the airfield where the drop zone is located," Capt Hornbuckle said. "We worked around it by planning for it in advance of our scheduled drop times. Additionally, we coordinated with (the Air Force base) in order to be added to their Standard Operating Procedures for any mission flights around the airfield."

Even though training was compacted into a short week, VMGR-152 found some time to do a little extra training.

"We had a third plane show up on Wednesday, and it allowed us to get some training for a copilot who is working on upgrade flights to become a plane commander," Capt Hornbuckle said. "The third plane also allowed us to do some Division Formation Flights (three planes or more) preparing Capt Edward T. Lang, Operations Officer, VMGR-152, for Weapons and Tactics Instructors Class."

The Marines from both units worked hard to finish up the week with three completed heavy drops and the combination drop along with all the little extras.

"The Marines did an outstanding job and the training went well throughout the whole week," Sgt Whitley said. "Everything went as planned and as scheduled."

A heavy supply drop rolls off the ramp of a KC-130 Hercules during a training exercise Feb. 13 conducted by Air Delivery Platoon, LS Co., 3d TSB, 3d FSSG and VMGR-152, MAG-36, 1st MAW.



Sgt Doug
Co., 3d TSB
on Cpl Ry

"We were very successful in completing over 23 sorties, 55 flight hours and completing or updating 74 mission codes for 12 pilots and 3 aircrews,"

— Capt Scott K. Hornbuckle

LCpl Jules E. Upton, A
Specialist, Air Delivery Pl
Co., 3d TSB, 3d FSSG, hook
parachute up to a truck s
stretched out before packing
the landing of a heavy su



Gallant, Air Delivery Specialist, Air Delivery Platoon, LS
B, 3d FSSG, practices inspecting a personnel parachute
an Cooper, Jump Master, Air Delivery Platoon.



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pply drop.

UDP brings new trackers to Okinawa



PHOTOS BY CPL KIMBERLY S. DOWELL

"Trackers" from 1st Plt, AAV Co, CAB, 3d MarDiv, splashed into the waters of Oura Wan Bay during a recent water training exercise. The platoon, part of the newly arrived amphibious assault company, will be attached to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit during its six-month deployment to Okinawa.

Pendleton-based Marines familiarize with Amphibious Assault Vehicles, equipment

CPL KIMBERLY S. DOWELL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP SCHWAB — The Marines of Company C, 3d Amphibious Assault Battalion, recently hit the beach at Oura Wan Bay here to familiarize themselves with the equipment, vehicles and environment they will train with for the next six months.

The unit, originally out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., recently arrived on Okinawa, as part of the Unit Deployment Program.

The first weeks on island were filled with safety, in-processing and cultural briefs. The "trackers" didn't hit the water with the new assault amphibious vehicles until the final phase of the familiarization event.

"We don't bring our vehicles with us," said GySgt Ed L. Bowers, Company Gunnery Sergeant, AAV Co, CAB, 3d MarDiv. "The vehicles here are basically the same as those we work with in California. This training gives our young Marines a good footing for their six-month deployment here."

The vehicles the unit took into the ocean had been idle for about two months, and like their drivers, they

needed to be aired out, too.

"The Marines and the vehicles haven't trained much during the turnover period," said 1stLt Shaun W. Doheney, Platoon Commander, 1st Plt, AAV Co, CAB. "The Marines need to familiarize themselves with the vehicles. Plus, with MEU operations coming up, we need to check the serviceability of the vehicles."

"RAMRS stands for Reliability Availability Maintainability Rebuild to Standard," GySgt Bowers said. "They are quite an improvement over the older tracks."

RAMRS feature improved suspension and horsepower. They also have a better exhaust system, and are more maneuverable.

While working the kinks out of the newer vehicles, the Marines worked to reacquaint themselves with the weapons systems on the vehicles, to include firing the .50 caliber machine gun, as part of their familiarization training.

Training on Okinawa comes with its own kind of complexity, according to 1stLt Doheney.

"This is a totally new training environment," 1stLt Doheney said. "The Marines know the training areas at Pendleton like the back of their hands."

"Here, they have to learn the water, and it is closer to real world amphibious and mechanized training.



LCpl Russel J. Merritt, Crew Chief, 1st Plt, Amphibious Assault Co, CAB, checks the hole plugs on an amphibious assault vehicle before his platoon headed to hit the surf off "Splash Beach" on Oura Wan Bay.

This is something we don't get back in the States."

The company leaves behind the familiar training grounds of Camp Pendleton to take advantage of the opportunity to train in other countries and to experience other cultures, according to GySgt Bowers.

Bower's Marines set the pace for training as soon as their plane landed in Okinawa.

Before the familiarization training had ended, a platoon headed to Camp Fuji. Other Marines are packing their sea bags to join their fellow Marines in Fuji and in preparation for deployment with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

"This deployment opens new avenues for these Marines," GySgt Bowers said. "There are more worldly training opportunities."



GySgt Bowers

Hero wary of glamour for actions

SGT JOHN SAYAS

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LEJEUNE — Webster's dictionary defines a hero as an illustrious warrior; a man admired for his achievements and noble qualities.

Marine Corps history is replete with personalities that have gone "above and beyond the call of duty." Thousands of citations have been written extolling the conspicuous gallantry and bravery of Marines, such as LtCol Eddie Stephen Ray, one of two Marines awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism during Desert Storm.

On February 25, 1991, LtCol Ray's Light Armored Vehicle company was requested to fall back to the 1st First Marine Division Forward Command Post to provide security. The CP was located near an irrigated, wooded area located in southeastern Kuwait near the Burqan Oil Fields.

The Iraqi invasion forces had set the oil wells ablaze, and the dense, black smoke choked out the sunlight and made maneuvering at night difficult.

"It was dark when we set in, and I spent most of the night walking up and down the line making sure everyone was oriented properly," LtCol Ray said.

"I finally drifted off to sleep and was awakened maybe a couple of hours later to the sound of artillery impacts in front of and behind our position," he added. "I also heard the 50 Cal (.50 caliber machine gun) on the line to my left when it started firing into the tree line."

LtCol Ray mounted his vehicle and sped to the gun emplacement to investigate.

"I saw a hummer driving through the trees towards the CP and I wondered what they were doing out there."

When the driver neared, he reported enemy vehicles approaching and that they had discovered a building cached full of weapons, food and equipment. LtCol Ray ordered the gun to displace, looked and saw the building about 150 meters into the trees. As he peered out

through the darkness, another vehicle appeared from behind the building and fired on the machinegun position and beyond towards the division command post.

He hesitated before orientating his gunner on the target. He was wary of firing on an unidentified vehicle.

"When it turned, I saw the suspension and realized it (the vehicle) wasn't friendly," LtCol Ray said.

Once he was positive that it was a BMP (a Russian-manufactured armored personnel carrier), he gave the order to fire.

The gunner sent three rounds into the vehicle and it started to smoke.

Another BMP appeared and fired shots at his vehicle. With an instinctive decision, LtCol Ray told his driver to re-

verse direction quickly.

The rounds fell short of LtCol Ray's vehicle, but landed in the vicinity of their original position.

LtCol Ray noticed that troops had exited from the rear of the vehicle and were taking positions in a ditch inside the woods.

He hastily repositioned the other Light Armored Vehicles in his company on line to his right and left and authorized them to engage targets as they appeared.

"I had a mental picture where everyone was. If one vehicle reported a target to his front, I would know where the enemy was," LtCol Ray said.

He added, "We would fire a few rounds into a vehicle. It would begin to smoke, then we'd fire at another vehicle and a few minutes later the first vehicle would explode."

In anticipation of further attacks, LtCol Ray scouted the terrain area south and west of the CP.

"We needed to reload our weapons and I needed to survey the area and see if anyone was out there," he said.

While patrolling, he happened on several Marine

logistics vehicles staged west of the CP and advised them to relocate further north, closer to the main body of Task Force Shepard.

He also discovered a Marine battalion of tanks on line situated south of the CP. He alerted the unit commander that his company was in their line of advance.

More enemy vehicles had reportedly approached the CP and LtCol Ray rapidly joined his team in the fray.

When LtCol Ray called for air support, it was initially denied as a low priority, but after someone overheard the radio traffic and keyed the mike to broadcast the sounds of the firefight, several AH-1W attack helicopters were quickly diverted to the scene.

With two helicopter escorts hovering over him, LtCol Ray proceeded forward with four of his vehicles. Together, they moved east through the trees.

On the other side of the woods, they spied a column of enemy vehicles approaching from the direction of the oil field. The combined arms force engaged them when the two leading vehicles moved to assume attack formation.

After sweeping through the much larger force, scouts rounded up more than 250 Iraqi soldiers, and LtCol Ray ordered medical attention be provided for those who required it.

"Recon swept the area the next day and reported 50 vehicles destroyed," LtCol Ray said.

LtCol Ray said he motivated his Marines by borrowing inspiration from pregame locker room speeches of football coaching greats, such as Vince Lombardi and Ara Parsegian.

"I'd read aloud particular passages regarding self-sacrifice, team-building concepts and humility," LtCol Ray said.

"I keep the perspective that my actions were ordinary," he said modestly of his battlefield tactics. "It could have been anyone else out there. Somebody else could have done it better. I'm just lucky to have benefited from experience. I have a compelling desire to serve."



LtCol Ray

Marines save baby

Quantico dispatchers awarded for life-saving actions

SGT JOHN SAYAS

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO

— Quantico Firehouse dispatchers LCpl Amber Kephart and Sgt Brian Salvadge were recognized for their actions during an emergency call on base.

It was just another evening shift for LCpl Kephart, who began her second week at the firehouse. With the thoughts of dispatch fundamentals such as 'expecting the unexpected,' helping people in an emergency and staying focused, LCpl Kephart stood her post pondering. Then the phone rang.

"Hello, I have an emergency," said the distressed Tanya Quiner, mother of 17-month-old Daniel. "My baby has something lodged in his throat and we can't seem to dislodge whatever is in his mouth."

Tanya and her family were at home finishing up dinner when her son picked up a piece of fish stick and attempted to eat it.

"I noticed he was choking on something and I attempted to get whatever was in his mouth," said Tanya, who knows first aid along with her husband Capt Kenneth Quiner. "It never completely lodged itself in, so he was able to breathe

a little bit. We tried to get it out ourselves, but after a couple minutes we decided to call for help."

Almost immediately, LCpl Kephart asked the necessary questions to dispatch an emergency medical team to the scene on base, while Sgt Salvadge made his way to sound the alarm.

LCpl Kephart had never experienced a case like this, she has only trained for them. She remembered as a trained emergency medical dispatcher that they never give medical information over the telephone. This was a special case, she decided as she weighed the odds of life over death.

"It takes 2-3 minutes for a 17-month-old who is not breathing to have brain damage, and 4-6 minutes for an adult," LCpl Kephart said. "The EMT was delayed and would have arrived within five minutes, but that would have been too late and the baby definitely would not have made it."

To help maintain control of the situation and save some time before EMT arrived, LCpl Kephart explained to the frantic mother how to perform the Heimlich maneuver, a technique used for choking victims, who then relayed the information to her husband, Kenneth.

"I had to leave the room to sound



SGT JOHN SAYAS

Quantico Firehouse dispatchers Sgt Brian Salvadge, Motor Transport, and LCpl Amber Kephart, Military Police, saved the life of a 17-month-old boy.

the alarm and when I came back, she was already giving (Tanya) instructions," said Sgt Salvadge, Head Dispatcher. "I just let her roll with it ... she did an outstanding job."

LCpl Kephart waited and listened for a response, unsure of what to expect next.

"[First aid] is not as easy as it looks," said LCpl Kephart. "It's even harder to explain how to do it over the phone because you can't see if the person is doing it right or not."

"He coughed something up," yelled Tanya.

Then a cry was heard over the phone, and LCpl Kephart felt a sigh of relief as she listened on the other end.

"She calmed me down and told us how to perform it properly," said Tanya. "We didn't realize he fell in the toddler class, so we had to do things a little differently than you would for an infant."

Her son is doing very well now, said Tanya.

The emergency team did a good job throughout the whole situation, mentioning that the Marine Corps training was definitely crucial in saving her son's life.

Michael Boughton, Teacher, CFCDC, races children visiting from Hirayasu as they visit the center Jan. 24-30.



Making friends

Children and cultures collide as American and Japanese kindergarten students meet and begin

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The Camp Foster Child Development Center here hosted approximately 100 children from the Hirayasu Kindergarten in Nakagusuku Village Jan. 24-30 so the children could get a taste of one another's culture.

The visits are part of a quarterly program that allows American children to visit Okinawan schools as well as host them, according to Anita Grant, CFCDC Director.

Children ranging in age from 2-6 were brought from Hirayasu for approximately two hours as part of their English class, to see how American children learn, according to Sheila McDaniel, Program Technician, CFCDC.

"We had the children play with each other — painting, dressing up in the opposite cultures' clothes, writing, singing and arts and crafts," said McDaniel.

"We made bracelets and they taught me how to do butterfly paintings," said Fiona I. McGarvie, 4, preschooler, CFCDC.

Even though the children were from two different cultures, it didn't stop them from playing with each other, according to Grant.

"When they play together the language barrier doesn't exist," Grant said. "I like playing with the Japanese kids because we have fun," said Ken Bredemeier, 5, preschooler, CFCDC.

The center wants to teach the children there are different ways of doing things, and

even though there are differences, everyone is still special, according to Grant.

"When we began this program the kids were a little shy at first," McDaniel said. "But after we paired them up they seemed to get more positive toward each other."

"I enjoy being with them," said Yoshino Hanashiro, 5, referring to the children of CFCDC. "Even though I know a little English, I learned more."

The center is involved with the Okinawa Christian Education Center located in Nakagusuku Village and Gaii Preschool located in Ginowan City. The center plans to add more schools to its program in the future, according to Grant. The CFCDC also plans to hold an event with the involved schools in celebration of Military Child Month in April.

The last time children from the CFCDC visited an Okinawan school was Dec. 23, when they took a trip to the OCEC, according to Grant.

"So far we have had nothing but compliments with this program since we started in April of 2000," Grant said. "We want to bring all children together and we aren't going to stop."



Yoshino Hanashiro, 5, Preschooler, Hirayasu, joins her new friend, Hanna George, 4, CFCDC, to make bracelets during her visit to the center.

Exiles

pounce on the competition

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LCPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

YOMITAN CITY — The only two Marine rugby teams on Okinawa, the Hellcats and the Thunder, combined forces to take on the island's top rated military team, the Exiles, during a tournament here Feb. 11. The Hellcats and the Thunder are both division C teams with less than a year's experience.

The Exiles are a division A team and have members from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

Only five team members from the Hellcats came out for the game allowing the Thunder to send in the remaining players to fill out the roster. There are usually 15 players on a rugby team.

Hellcats coach, Yanagi Moto, said the Exiles are a very strong team. Exiles' Social Secretary, Tim Fox, said he was concerned for his team because the Hellcats' technical ability is very good.

"I think their technical ability is as good, if not better, than some of the bigger teams back in the States," Fox said. "They're not as big and strong as most American teams are, but they're very fast."

The Hellcats/Thunder took the first possession, but the Exiles did not play defense for very long. Almost immediately, the Exiles regained control of the ball and took it in for the first try. A try is similar to a touchdown in football.

Several times during the first half the Hellcats/Thunder took possession of the ball only to lose it again. The Exiles dominated the first half, which ended with the Hellcats/Thunder trailing 24-0.

After the five-minute break at halftime, the Exiles began the second half with another strong charge. The Hellcats/Thunder had the ball several times but never made it to the try zone.

Approximately halfway through the second half, the Exiles lost Mark Ridout, fullback, to a shoulder injury. With only 14 players on the field, the Exiles still scored seven more times bringing the score to 67-0.

"Ultimately we're not out there to win big gigantic trophies," said Thunder scrum-half, Dan L. Paris. "In my mind we just get to play rugby in an organized event and that's what we wanted to do. The team is like an extended family."

"It is fun for me to watch guys who've never touched a rugby ball before catch the fever. We used to be without equipment to play and now we just ordered all of our own gear."



During the game in Yomitan City Feb. 11, the two teams fight for the ball during a line out. A line out is done when the ball goes out of bounds. Both teams line up perpendicular to the sideline and fight for the ball as it's tossed amongst them.



During the game at Yomitan City Feb. 11 there were many scrums. A scrum is called when there is a slight infraction of the rules. The two teams go head to head while the ball is rolled between players, who push against each other and try to rake the ball back.



The Hellcats' Mike Mortiz, fullback, is on his own as he is tackled by a host of Exiles players during the game in Yomitan City Feb. 11.

Ron Brown

Following his father's "foot notes"

CAMP FOSTER — As a young boy growing up in Austin, Texas, he started playing the saxophone to follow in his father's footsteps.

Music has been part of Ron Brown's life since he can remember.

"I grew up listening to my father play the saxophone and he was great," Brown said.

Also influencing his life in music was the local entertainment scene of Austin.

"Austin has a great music scene and has more live music per capita than anyplace else," Brown said. "You get a great opportunity to perform and develop your music as well as hear other bands."

It was in this setting that he took in all different types of music, which he has kept with him in his music today. Although he was constantly interacting with music, it wasn't until the age of 13 that he started to play the saxophone.

In junior high school he learned to play soprano and alto sax, as well as develop the skill needed to play the tenor and baritone saxophones, according to Brown.

It wasn't until college that he developed his own musical style.

"My style developed from all influences I had picked up from rhythm and blues, jazz, gospel and classical," Brown said. "All

these musical flavors I put into my songs."

Brown's career really took off when he started working in Las Vegas with Natalie Cole.

"The interesting thing was getting to work with her song "Unforgettable," which didn't become a big hit till many years later," Brown said.

After working with Natalie, his career led him to work with such notable names as Dianna Ross, Whitney Houston, Ella Fitzgerald, Anita Baker, the Duke Ellington Orchestra and Stevie Wonder.

"For me it was an honor to play with such talented people, especially Stevie," Brown said. "Even though I had played with a lot of people, I have so much respect for his talent."

After playing for others for so many years, Brown launched his own career in 1997 with his album, "From My Eyes Only."

He has toured all over the world including Japan, but recently made his first trip to Okinawa for Marine Corps Community Services' Rhapsody Concert Series, which brings mature musical acts from the States.

"I usually come to Japan three times a year, but this was the first time in Okinawa," Brown said. "I love the fresh ocean air you get here and the people are so friendly."

In Okinawa, Brown preformed original songs from his most recent and first album, "Urban

Dreams," under his independent label Mankind Records.

Brown preformed for audiences across Okinawa at different military bases, including Chesty's Staff Noncommissioned Officer's Club, where he dazzled patrons with his style of jazz.

"His music is just awesome and I love that smooth jazz style," said SgtMaj Herman Raybon, Sergeant Major, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base. "I think it's wonderful that MCCS was able to get a big name like Ron Brown, because normally it would cost \$60 to \$70 to see him."

By performing in front of service members and civilians, Brown not only gives audiences a taste of jazz, but also a glimpse within himself.

"I want people to feel my spirit and the spirit of my music," Brown said. "There are so many levels inside of levels when it comes to music."

Brown has had a lot of success in his career, but despite his accomplishments he strives to go further.

"Music is a lifelong study," he said. "Even though I have had success, I will continue to study."

Brown plans to keep writing and playing good music while making it available for people to hear. To help aid his mission he encourages teaching principles through art with the Urban Dreams Foundation. As the founder of Urban Dreams, Brown hopes to help inspire and motivate youth to reach their full potential.

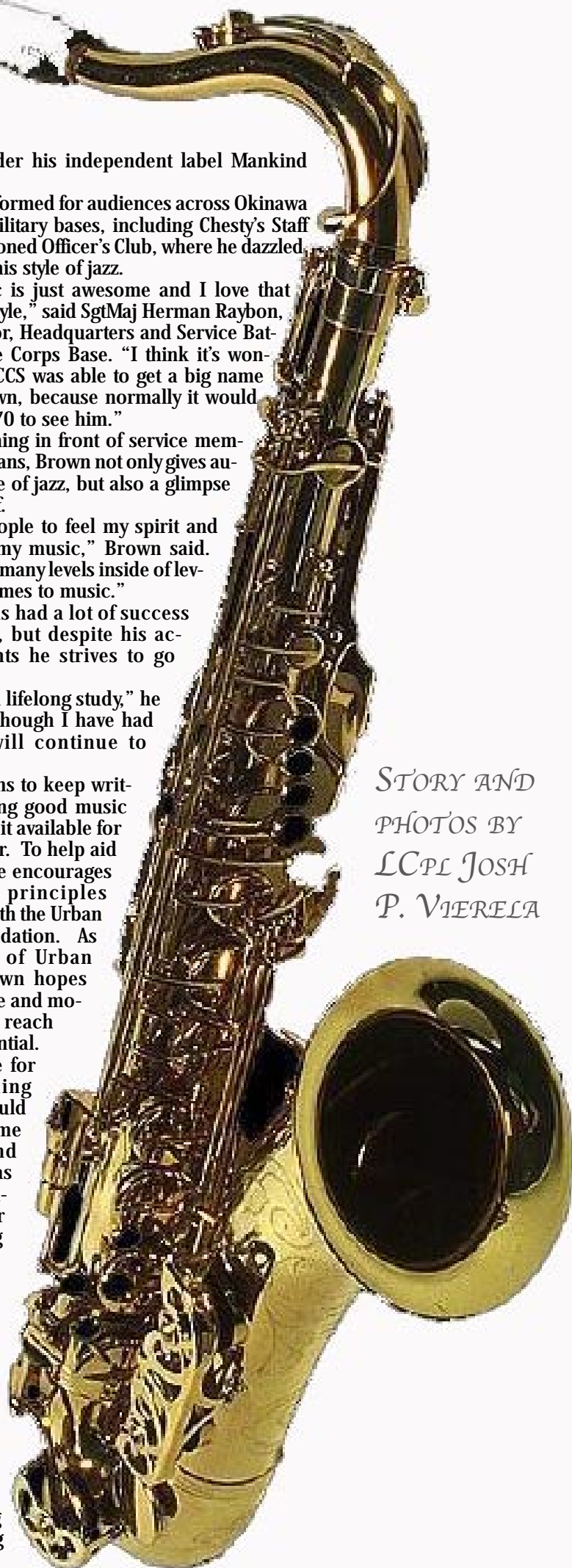
"My advice for up and coming musicians would be to take time to understand the business as well as the music and never stop learning and take lessons in music every chance you get," Brown said.

"Put your dreams on your own shoulders, work diligently and have passion for the thing you are going for."



Ron Brown, saxophonist, performed songs from his new album, *Urban Dreams*, during the MCCS "Rhapsody Concert Series" at Chesty's SNCO Club on Camp Foster, Jan. 20.

STORY AND
PHOTOS BY
LCPL JOSH
P. VIERELA





AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1985 Yamaha 700 — \$3,000 OBO. Luis, 636-2627 or 646-4511.
1988 Honda Prelude — JCI Dec 01, \$1,700 OBO. 090-9785-2197.
1986 Pajero 4x4 — JCI Jul 01, \$4,000 OBO. 622-5141.
1991 Toyota Carina — JCI May 02, \$2,300 OBO. 637-4265.
1987 Mitsubishi Delica — JCI Dec 02, \$1,700 OBO. 637-3939.
1988 Honda Prelude — JCI Mar 02, \$1,200 OBO. 636-4618.
1989 300ZX — JCI Feb 03, \$5,800 OBO. **1991 Nissan Bluebird** — JCI Nov 02, \$2,400. 636-3005.
1989 Toyota Chaser — JCI Jan 02, \$175. Harold, 645-2952.
1990 Honda Civic — JCI Sep 01, \$1,900 OBO. **1986 Toyota Corolla** — JCI Sep 01, \$400. SSgt Turberville, 637-2482.
1990 Nissan Pulsar — JCI Nov 01, \$1,500 OBO. Ken, 622-8232.
1991 Nissan Silvia — JCI Dec 01, \$700. David, 645-6251.
1991 Mitsubishi Diamante — JCI Jul 02, \$2,000 OBO. 623-6184.
1989 Toyota Chaser — JCI Jan 03, \$2,800 OBO. 646-3119.
1994 Honda Cynos — JCI Jan 03, \$2,500 OBO. 646-3045.
1986 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Jan 02, \$1,600. 645-4273.
1989 Honda Accord — JCI Oct 01, \$1,100. 632-3181.
1990 Toyota Carina — JCI Apr 01, \$1,700 OBO. 622-5328.
1998 HD 1200 — \$9,000. Phil, 646-8524 or 636-1175.
1989 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Jan 03, \$3,400 OBO. 646-5348.
1991 Nissan Presoa — JCI Jan 03, \$2,000. **1989 BMW** — \$500 OBO. **1991 Nissan Maxima** — JCI Sep 01, \$2,600. 637-4097.
1992 Honda City — JCI Dec 02, \$1,800. Latresa, 646-5747.
1988 Honda Prelude — JCI Dec 01, \$1,800 OBO. 090-9785-2197.
1993 Toyota Exiv — JCI Feb 02, \$3,500 OBO. 646-4289.
1986 Honda Shad 1100cc — \$1,800. Neil, 876-6062.

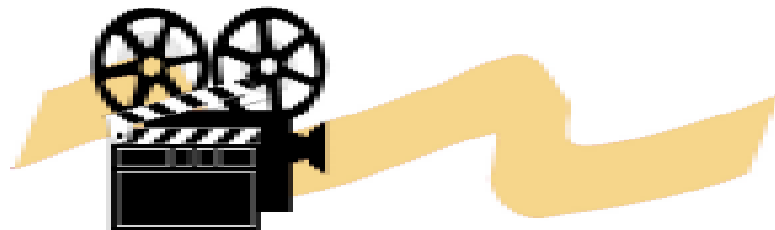


MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. — Burgandy drapes, \$175 and Sealy Mattress and box spring set, \$250. SSgt Turberville, 637-2482.
Misc. — Beige German sofa w/(2) chairs, \$60; (4) Scandavian Kitchen chairs, \$30 and (2) bambo twin beds, \$15. 645-2952.
Pet — FTGH Golden Brown Traditional Japanese Sheba dog. Housebroken, shots and spayed. 890-4822 after 7 p.m.
Piano — Spinet piano, \$1,200. 622-5141.
Misc. — Patio canopy 10x20, \$100. 633-1337.
Misc. — Dehumidifier, \$75 and 2000 watt transformer, \$70. Tom or Deb, 632-3257 or 622-9460.
Misc. — (2) Gemini XL 500 turntables, Gemini PMX mixer, Technics head phones, (2) turntable cartridges, Odyssey (80 LP case) and (50) house and underground records, \$750. 637-3070.
Misc. — Queen Bed Serta Perfect Sleeper, \$40; toddler canopy ded w/mattress, \$50; crib w/mattress, \$40; bakers rack, \$85; Little Tykes pool w/slide, \$30; shed, \$300; sit/stand stroller, \$35; and stroller w/shade and basket, \$35. 622-5178.
Misc. — Eight channel Futaba Radio Control plane w/all access, NIB. Large Piper cub almost ready to fly, \$500. 622-9347
Textbooks — UMUC-GVPT 170 book, \$35; CTC-Math 1307 college algebra book with solution manual, \$65; and ECON 1301 with additional subject book, \$30. 646-5042.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week. The deadline for ads is noon, Fridays, space permitting. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Coming to a theater near you ...



Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice. **Call theaters in advance to confirm showtimes.** Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Courtney (622-9616)
Fri Hannibal (R); 7:00
Sat Dude, Where's My Car (PG13); 4:00
Sat The 6th Day (PG13); 7:00
Sun Unbreakable (PG13); 7:00
Mon Closed
Tue Closed
Wed Most Valuable Primate (PG); 7:00
Thu Closed
Hansen (623-4564)
Fri The Pledge (R); 6:00, 9:00
Sat The Pledge (R); 6:00, 9:00
Sun Proof of Life (R); 2:00, 5:30
Mon Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 7:00
Tue Dungeons and Dragons



Check Courtney, Keystone, Kinser and Schwab Theaters for show times.



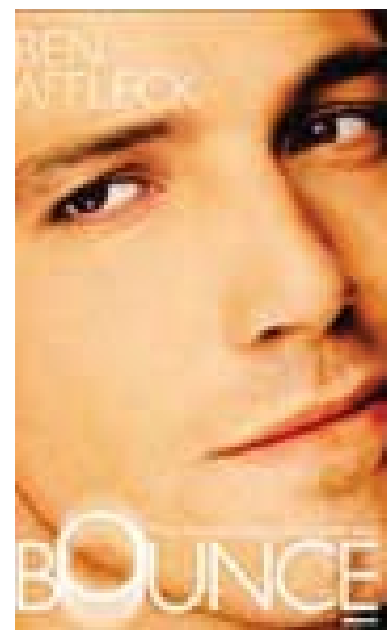
Check Hansen, Butler, Kinser, Keystone and Schwab Theaters for show times.

(PG13); 7:00
Wed Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Thu Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Butler (645-3465)
Fri Valentine (R); 7:00, 10:00
Sat Bounce (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
Sat Valentine (R); 7:00, 10:00
Sun Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
Sun Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Mon Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Tue Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 7:00
Wed Proof of Life (R); 7:00
Thu (R); 7:00
Kinser (637-2177)
Fri The 6th Day (PG13); 7:00
Sat Bounce (PG13); 3:00
Sat Proof of Life (R); 7:00, 11:30
Sun Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 7:00
Mon Closed
Tue Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Wed Hannibal (R); 7:00
Thu Dungeons and Dragon (PG13); 7:00
Keystone (634-1869)
Fri Dude, Where's My Car (PG13); 6:30
Fri The 6th Day (PG13); 9:00
Sat Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 1:00
Sat Hannibal (R); 5:30
Sat Antitrust (PG13); 9:00
Sun Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 2:00
Sun Hannibal (R); 5:30, 9:00

Mon Proof of Life (R); 7:00
Tue Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Wed Bounce (PG13); 7:00
Thu Proof of Life (R); 7:00

Schwab (625-2333)
Fri The 6th Day (PG13); 7:00
Sat Unbreakable (PG13); 6:00
Sat The 6th Day (PG13); 9:00
Sun Unbreakable (PG13); 3:00
Sun The 6th Day (PG13); 6:00
Mon Hannibal (R); 7:00
Tue Hannibal (R); 7:00
Wed Closed
Thu Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 7:00

Futenma (636-3890)
Fri Meet the Parents (PG13); 7:30
Sat The 6th Day (PG13); 6:00
Sun Women On Top (R); 6:00
Mon Red Planet (PG13); 7:30
Tue Closed
Wed Valentine (R); 7:30
Thu Closed



Check Kinser, Butler, Keystone and Hansen Theaters for show times.